



# Harford County Stormwater Pollution Prevention

## VEHICLE STORAGE

Parking lots and vehicle storage areas can introduce sediment, metals, oil and grease, and trash into stormwater runoff. Simple practices including pavement sweeping, litter control, spill prevention and proper clean up, and stormwater treatment practices can minimize pollutant export from these hotspots. The largest, most heavily used parking lots with vehicles in the poorest conditions have the highest potential for pollution.



### Pollution Prevention Techniques for Parking Lots and Vehicle Storage Areas

- ✓ Post signs to control litter and prevent patrons from changing automobile fluids in the parking lot.
- ✓ Pick up litter, cigarette butts, and packaging waste daily and provide trash receptacles to discourage littering.
- ✓ Stencil or mark storm drain inlets with "No Dumping, Drains to Chesapeake Bay" message.
- ✓ Stabilize unpaved lots.
- ✓ Walk the property monthly to find and fix leaks and to clear any debris from storm drains.
- ✓ Inspect storm drain catch basins twice a year and remove accumulated sediments as needed.
- ✓ Vacuum or sweep parking lot monthly. Most communities have contractors that can be hired to clean out catch basins and vacuum sweep lots.
- ✓ Direct runoff water to bioretention areas, vegetated swales, or sand filters (BMPs).
- ✓ Don't allow rooftop gutter drains to discharge to paved surfaces.
- ✓ Train employees on spill prevention and how to properly clean up spills and waste.
- ✓ Do not store wrecked vehicles on lots unless runoff containment and treatment are provided. Place large drip pans under wrecked cars until all fluids are drained; do not allow drip pans to overflow
- ✓ Monitor parked vehicles and equipment and place drip pans under leaks to collect fluids for proper disposal into labeled sealed containers.
- ✓ Have an emergency spill kit on hand.
- ✓ Properly clean up any spills by using dry methods of
  - Dry methods of sweeping cat litter, sand, rags, or oil dry
  - Use drain mats to cover drains in the event of a spill
  - Promptly and properly dispose of collected fluids into secondary containment
  - Immediately report any spills which have entered the street, gutter, or storm drain system to Harford County DPW